

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

The title of the invention has been changed to SELF-SIZING CARDIAC HARNESS FOR TREATING CONGESTIVE HEART FAILURE.

The specification page 20, lines 9-14 will now read:

An advantageous feature is that the hinges 6 are designed such that the elastic limit or yield point of their material is not exceeded during use. In other words, the hinges 6 operate in their elastic range so that they can recover to their original, stress-free configuration when they are unloaded. In addition, an important aspect to the use of a harness 4 comprised of elastic hinges 6 is that the harness 4 is sized such that it remains in elastic, compressive contact with the heart 2. More specifically, the hinges 6 extends circumferentially around the heart to form the cardiac harness 4 and have sufficient elasticity and compressive contact with the heart 2 so that the cardiac harness is self-sizing. As the heart expands and contracts throughout the cardiac cycle, the cardiac harness 4 is self-tensioning in order to remain in compressive contact with the heart 2. If reverse remodeling recurs and the left ventricular shape and size consequently decreases back toward normal then resistive pressure from the harness 4 will commensurately decrease as well, due to the self-tensioning and self-sizing features.